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ETON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the Eton Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my report for the year 1945. I regret its late appearance, but the Vital Statistics were not received from the Ministry until 30th. June. In view of the retirement of your late Medical Officer of Health, I have been obliged to restrict the report to essential matters.

Vital Statistics.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate Mid-year 1945) - 4,282.

Live Births.

| | | | | | |
|--------------|----|------|----|--------|----|
| Total | 57 | Male | 18 | Female | 39 |
| Legitimate . | 55 | " | 18 | " | 37 |
| Illegitimate | 2 | " | - | " | 2 |

| | |
|--|------|
| Birth rate per 1,000 population (excluding boys at Eton College) | 14.4 |
| National rate | 16.1 |

Deaths.

| | | | | | |
|-------------|----|------|----|--------|----|
| Total | 32 | Male | 14 | Female | 18 |
|-------------|----|------|----|--------|----|

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| Death rate per 1,000 population | 7.5 |
| National rate | 11.4 |

| | |
|--|------|
| Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 total births | nil |
| National rate | 1.46 |

Deaths of Infants under 1.

| | | |
|------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Total .. 3 | Male .. nil (Legitimate | Female .. 3 (Legitimate) |
|------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|

| | |
|---|------|
| Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births | 52.6 |
| National rate | 46.0 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Deaths from Measles | nil |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough | nil |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) | nil |

| <u>Causes of Death</u> | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis | - | 1 | 1 |
| Cancer | - | 1 | 1 |
| Intra-cranial vascular lesions | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Heart disease | 4 | 7 | 11 |
| Other circulatory diseases | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Bronchitis | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Pneumonia | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Other respiratory diseases | 3 | - | 3 |
| Premature birth | - | 3 | 3 |
| Road Traffic Accidents | 1 | - | 1 |
| Other causes | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | 14 | 18 | 32 |

The health of the Eton Urban District has been satisfactory during the year. The number of births has risen from 34 in 1944 to 57 in 1945, and the death rate at 7.5 per 1,000 population has remained well below the national rate at 11.4. There were no maternal deaths. Three infants under the age of one year died; in all 3 cases the death was due to prematurity.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Owing to the pressure of housing work and the difficulty of effecting repairs, inspection work was still under pre-war standards.

Water Supply. Water is supplied throughout the district by the Windsor Corporation Waterworks, a constant supply of good wholesome water being given. The Undertakers subject the water to regular analysis.

The Council is taking steps with the Water Company to provide dwellings at present without a piped supply with such amenity under the provisions of the Water Supply and Sewerage Act, 1944. During the year 6 houses have been connected to the public mains, and 3 more are now being negotiated.

Drainage and Sewerage. There has been no extension of the sewers during the year. The method of disposal is by broad irrigation at the Council's Sewage Farm at Eton Wick.

Properties in the West Ward are continuing to be connected with the public sewer, 47 properties being connected during the year. Houses still unconnected with the sewer drain into cesspools or use pail closets, the contents of the latter being disposed of in gardens. One house originally with pail closets has had proper drainage and cesspool connected as it was not possible to connect it to the sewer.

The cesspools are emptied frequently by contract, 156 visits to 52 cesspools were made during the year. The contents of the cesspools are disposed of at the Sewage Farm.

Closet Accommodation. All houses in the district have the water carriage system with the exception of those in outlying parts of the district and in the West Ward not connected with the sewer. There are 32 cesspools and 14 pail closets. 2 conversions were carried out during the year.

Public Cleansing. House refuse collection is by covered horse drawn carts, the reduced collection mentioned in my 1943 report is still in force. Refuse is now tipped instead of being incinerated owing to labour shortages and the low combustible value of the refuse. The Council have on order a lorry for the collection of refuse.

The Council undertake the collection and disposal of waste paper:-

| | <u>Tons</u> | <u>cwts.</u> | <u>£.</u> | <u>s.</u> | <u>d.</u> |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Paper | 22 | - | 88.-. | -. | -. |

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Number of inspections made 9
Number of nuisances found 9
Number of nuisances remedied by
service of informal notice ... 9
Number of nuisances remedied by
service of formal notice -

Shops. No inspection of shops was carried out during the year.

Camping Sites.

Number of camps used for camping nil
Number of camps licenced for camping nil
Estimated number of campers at any
one time nil

Smoke Abatement. There was no nuisance from smoke during the year.

Swimming Pools. There are two open swimming pools in tributaries of the Thames, one private and the other public. The public bath was opened for a short period during the summer at the owners' risk.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of Council houses infested ... 1
Number of other houses infested 3
Number of Council houses disinfested 1
Number of other houses disinfested .. 3

Messrs. Newton Chambers' "Zaldecide" with hand spray was used for all cases of disinfection.

No investigations of tenants' belongings before taking Council houses was considered necessary.

Disinfection in private houses is carried out by private contractor.

The Sanitary Inspector advises and supervises to prevent infestation or reinfestation after cleansing.

Miscellaneous Controlled Premises.

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Number in District.</u> | <u>Number Registered</u> | <u>Number of Inspections made</u> |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Bakehouses | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Slaughterhouses | 1 | 1 | - |
| Cowkeepers | 7 | 7 | 18 |
| Dairies (including milk Retailers) | 15 | 15 | |

Out-workers. The latest list of out-workers contains 18 persons engaged with 3 firms on tailoring work.

Disinfection. Rooms in 5 houses were disinfected after cases of infectious disease.

Housing. Work has been commenced on 10 permanent brick houses. 12 prefabricated bungalows have been completed and occupied; 1 Council cottage has been reconditioned for re-occupation, one old house converted into two flats, and two houses have been requisitioned.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply. There were 6 supplementary Milk Licences issued under the Milk and Dairies (Special Designations) Order, 1936/1938.

The milk from the Council's Farm continues to be of good quality. The cowsheds have been regularly inspected and found to be kept in a generally satisfactory condition.

Meat and Other Foods. 112 lbs. of various sorts of tinned foods were condemned during the year and destroyed as being unfit for human consumption.

Ice Cream and Preserved Foods. 21 shops have registered for the sale or manufacture of ice cream and preserved foods under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Details of Inspections.

| <u>Drainage.</u> | | <u>Housing.</u> | |
|------------------------------|----|-----------------------|----|
| New drainage work | 32 | Dampness | 8 |
| Existing drainage | 6 | Defective ceilings | 12 |
| Interviews with | | Defective range | 6 |
| owners re drains | 4 | | |
| Blocked sewers | 1 | | |
| Defective drains | 1 | | |
| | | <u>Miscellaneous.</u> | |
| | | Inspection of | |
| | | Bakehouses | 1 |
| | | Nuisance of Bugs | 4 |
| <u>Cowsheds and Dairies.</u> | | | |
| Dirty floors | 2 | | |
| Limewashing required | 7 | | |
| Roof dirty | 2 | | |

Interviews with owners of properties and builders - 175.

Notifiable Diseases during 1945
(Other than Tuberculosis)

| <u>Disease</u> | <u>Cases</u> <u>Notified</u> | <u>Cases admitted</u> <u>to Eton Joint</u> <u>Isolation Hospital</u> | <u>Deaths</u> |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------|
| Diphtheria | - | - | - |
| Scarlet Fever | 4 | 2 | - |
| Enteric Fever | - | - | - |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | - | - | - |
| Pneumonia | - | - | - |
| Erysipelas | - | - | - |
| Measles | 40* | 1 | - |

*36 cases at Eton College.

4 cases of Scarlet Fever occurred in the months of January, February, March and July. 2 were children from Eton Wick and 1 a W.R.E.N. stationed in Eton. There were no cases during the year among the boys at the College.

No case of Diphtheria was recorded during the year. It is estimated that at the end of the year some 90% of the school children had been immunised against Diphtheria and 40% of the children under 5 years of age. Children can be immunised at the Eton and Eton Wick Welfare Centres, at the Burlington Road Clinic, Slough, or at the Schools.

Tuberculosis. Two cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified and one case of Tuberculous Meningitis who subsequently died.

Laboratory Examinations. The following specimens for the Eton Urban District have been examined during the year at the Slough Town Hall laboratory:-

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Swabs for Diphtheria bacilli | 3 |
| Sputa for Tubercle bacilli.. | 2 |
| Water samples | 3 |

J.W. WEBB.

Temporary Medical Officer of Health.

